

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

- 1 1. A piston-cylinder unit comprising:
2 a cylindrical pressure tube having an end with an end face surrounding a
3 central opening;
4 a piston rod extending through said central opening; and
5 a heat-shrink sleeve surrounding said pressure tube and enclosing said
6 end face.
- 1 2. A piston-cylinder unit as in claim 1 wherein
2 said cylindrical pressure tube is formed at said end to form an end wall,
3 said end face facing radially inward to define said central opening;
4 said piston rod extends through said central opening and forms a ring-
5 shaped gap between said piston rod and said end face; and
6 said heat-shrink sleeve extends into said ring-shaped gap.
- 1 3. A piston-cylinder unit as in claim 2 wherein said sleeve surrounds
2 and is axially supported by the radially inward facing end wall.
- 1 4. A piston-cylinder unit as in claim 2 further comprising a piston rod
2 guiding and sealing unit received in said cylindrical pressure tube toward said end wall,
3 said piston rod being axially movable through said unit, said guiding and sealing unit
4 comprising an end ring which is enclosed by said end wall.

1 5. A piston-cylinder unit as in claim 4 wherein said end ring comprises
2 an annular channel surrounding said rod and facing said ring-shaped gap.

1 6. A piston-cylinder unit as in claim 5 wherein said annular channel
2 has a radially outer cylindrical wall with a diameter, the central opening of the end wall
3 having a diameter which is greater than or equal to the diameter of the radially outer
4 cylindrical wall of the annular channel.

1 7. A piston-cylinder unit as in claim 5 wherein said annular channel
2 has a radially outer cylindrical wall with a diameter, the central opening of the end wall
3 having a diameter which is less than the diameter of the radially outer cylindrical wall of
4 the annular channel.

1 8. A piston-cylinder unit as in claim 5 wherein the heat-shrink sleeve
2 extends into the annular channel.

1 9. A piston-cylinder unit as in claim 7 wherein the heat-shrink sleeve
2 extends into the annular channel and overlaps a portion of the end wall extending over
3 the annular channel.

1 10. A piston-cylinder unit as in claim 5 wherein the annular channel has
2 a radially extending bottom, said sleeve resting against said bottom and extending
3 toward the piston rod.

1 11. A piston-cylinder unit as in claim 10 wherein said sleeve has a free
2 end which rests against the piston rod.

1 12. A piston-cylinder unit as in claim 10 wherein said sleeve has an end
2 which encloses the piston rod in a tubular manner.

1 13. A piston-cylinder unit as in claim 2 wherein said cylindrical pressure
2 tube comprises a cylindrical part and a rounded transition between said cylindrical part
3 and said end wall.